

THE WEATHER
Cloudy tonight and Thursday; probable showers; not much change in temperature...

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PRICE TWO CENTS

CONTRACTORS' FOES LAUNCH HOUSE FIGHT AGAINST ARON BILL

Trainer Will Attack Measure That Would Weaken City Charter

FRIENDS SNEAKED IT OUT OF COMMITTEE

Vare Revealed as Real Backer of Plan to Restore Contract Cleaning

MAYOR AND CAVEN ASSAIL SCHEME AS AGAINST CITY

Interested Men Take Advantage of Confusion When Spangler Falls

SEEMS CLOSE TO PASSAGE

Only United Opposition and Protest Can Prevent Action

Favorable to Sponsors

By a Staff Correspondent

Harrisburg, April 27.—The Aron street-cleaning bill, which, if passed, will restore the contractor system of street cleaning in Philadelphia, has been "sneaked" out of committee in the state House of Representatives.

The measure, which friends of Mayor Moore had considered dead, has come to life through the Sprout-Croze political coup and threatens to pass unless strenuous opposition immediately appears.

The bill appeared on the second reading calendar this morning. Independent could hardly believe it had been sneaked out of committee until they saw the calendar. Promptly they turned to Harry J. Trainer, an ally of Mayor Moore, left his usual seat and took a place near the speaker's stand, Franklin S. Edinger, another friend of the Mayor, also got busy.

Trainer's Plan of Fight

Trainer will make the point, if he gets the attention of the chair, that the bill was never considered in committee. Trainer is a member of the municipal affairs committee, and he said today he never heard of the bill's being considered or of its being reported out. On that ground as a member of the committee, Trainer said that he would fight to have the bill shot back to committee.

While Trainer was polishing up his case the Varen men were equally on the job.

Senator Varn had a prominent seat in one of the main aisles. Then in order, along the aisle were these representatives of Philadelphia's government: Thomas F. Watson, chairman of the Republican city committee; Thomas W. Edinger, chairman of the Democratic city committee; Harry Wittig, sergeant-at-arms of the Philadelphia Council; Frank W. Short, secretary to President Weiglin.

Aron Calls Guards

It appeared to observers as if Senator Aron, the special representative of the bill, had called out the "guards" in order to be sure that he had some chance for his street-cleaning bill.

Observers credit the faculty with which the bill was sneaked out of committee to the Varn influence in reorganizing the House. Friends of the reorganization said the passage of the bill in these circumstances would be a severe blow to the general good of the organization.

Senator Mix Aron, Dave Lane's representative, was so anxious as to the fate of his pet bill, that he spent half the night in the House. "I want the bill passed," said the pet senator.

"What's wrong with the bill?" inquired Senator Aron. "It doesn't change the situation at all. Let those who oppose this bill point out its defects, if any."

Independents pointed out that Mr. Aron had been limited to the bar, and hence the "if any."

"The bill is a good bill," said Aron, "and should be passed."

The bill already has passed the Senate.

A swift protest against the Aron street-cleaning bill, next up for second reading in the House at Harrisburg, was presented today by Mayor Moore and Director Caven and by officials of the Bureau of Municipal Research.

The Aron bill to restore street cleaning to contractor domination in Philadelphia, the Mayor said, "is one of the bills which the Mayor hopes to see defeated."

"The Mayor declines to discuss street-cleaning," he said. "It is not a political question. It is a business question."

"The Mayor has no reason to believe that those gentlemen are unfriendly to the Philadelphia administration," he said. "Why should they be? I observe they are making no statement on the political significance of the affairs at Harrisburg. Why should the Mayor?"

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Charter Body Seeks Aron Bill Hearing

Speaker of the House of Representatives, State Legislature, Harrisburg, Pa.

Object to provisions of Senate bill No. 1328 now up for second reading as tinkering with the new charter. Charter now gives perfect home rule. Any changes in street-cleaning provisions are unnecessary. Request an opportunity to present our views before final consideration by House.

(Signed) CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE OF PHILADELPHIA.

STENOGRAPHER SHOOTS EX-ROOMMATE AND SELF

Climax of Quarrel Comes on a Crowded Railway Platform

Chicago, April 27.—(By A. P.)—Miss Jeannette Hoy, twenty-four, a stenographer, today shot her former roommate, Miss Catherine Davis, twenty-nine, a bookkeeper, while standing on a crowded elevated railroad platform in the center of the downtown business section, then ran into a cigar store and shot herself.

Two young women were taken to a hospital, where their condition was said to be critical.

The shooting, which involved hundreds of persons, was believed to have resulted from a recent quarrel. Miss Davis, according to her employers, came here a year ago from Chattanooga, Tenn., and took a room with Miss Hoy. A week ago they separated. Two days ago Miss Davis received a letter from Miss Hoy containing a bullet.

At Miss Davis' instigation Miss Hoy was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct, but was discharged.

MAYOR O. K.'S PAVING LOAN

Ordinance Authorizes Floating of \$5,000,000 for Street Job

The first work to receive Mayor Moore's attention when he reached his office this morning was the signing of an ordinance which authorizes the floating of a \$5,000,000 loan for the paving of streets.

The Mayor said he was anxious to rush the work of street paving and that the loan, to be raised by the issue of short-term bonds, would be advertised as rapidly as possible.

The floating of a loan of this kind as a means of raising funds for street paving was made possible by President Weiglin's memorandum to the new city charter. Formerly the expense of such work had to be met from current funds.

The proposed bonds will mature in fifteen years and will bear more than 5 1/2 per cent interest.

TRAIN DEMOLISHES TRUCK

Driver Narrowly Escapes Death by Presence of Mind

Paul Ambrose, twenty-seven years old, of Hammondtown, had a narrow escape from a fatal accident when a Pennsylvania Railroad express train demolished the motor truck he was driving at Elm street crossing, Hammondtown.

The truck is the property of the Howland Electric Co., which is engaged in the tracks, and Ambrose could neither stop the truck nor cross the track ahead of the train. He tried to ditch the machine. The engine of the train hit the rear of the truck, smashing it to bits.

Ambrose was taken from the wreckage and hurried to the Lehigh Valley Hospital, where it was found he was suffering from minor cuts and bruises and shock. He will recover.

CALL ROBBERY "FRAME-UP"

Police Say Driver Let Himself Be Slugged to Give Color to Story

James Pulaski, 201 Beek street, charged with conspiracy and the larceny of \$10,000 worth of cloth, was held in \$2500 bail for a further hearing next Tuesday by Magistrate Grella to day.

Pulaski was a driver for Stanley H. Goldsmith & Co., cloth druggists, at Fifteenth and Wallace streets. Police say he arranged to have forty bolts of cloth stolen from his truck.

The goods disappeared April 15, while Pulaski was in a building at Twelfth and Cherry streets. The driver was struck with a blackback as he left the building, and was treated at a hospital. Police say the blow was prepared to make the affair appear an ordinary robbery. Later the cloth was recovered.

FRENCH HONOR AMERICANS

Walter Berry Is Made Commander of Legion of Honor

Paris, April 27.—(By A. P.)—Walter Berry, president of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Legion of Honor, according to the Journal Officiel today.

The list also included Mrs. Herman Hargis, Dr. Robert Turner and Frank Jay Gould, who have been made knights of the Legion.

Important Activities in Legislative Session

Talk of attacking legality of House reorganization, includes.

Robert N. Spangler, ousted speaker, takes his seat in House and is warmly received by friends and foes.

Three revenue bills taxing inheritance, gasoline and alcoholic liquors, will be passed finally by House today. They will add \$12,000,000 to the revenue.

Days bill empowering cities to regulate sale of fireworks reported to House and may be passed.

COSTLY COAL DUE TO WAGE SCALE, PRODUCER SAYS

Head of Pennsylvania Company Tells Commerce Chamber

Radicals Rule Unions

DEFENSE URGES ECONOMY AS VITALLY NECESSARY

Atlantic City, April 27.—Coal prices to the consumer and the means by which they can be reduced formed the theme of an address by T. H. Watkins, president of the Pennsylvania Coal and Coke Co., before the United States Chamber of Commerce today. He placed the responsibility for the present high cost squarely upon the shoulders of the United Mine Workers of America, asserting that the existing wage contract made further reduction of the sale price impossible. Operators, the speaker said, "generally reduced their prices to very narrow margins, in many cases below the cost of production."

"Operators having contracts cannot honorably refuse to carry them out," Mr. Watkins declared, "but they can ask for discussion and a modification of the contract, and are doing it, possibly with very little hope of success. His 'particular criticisms' of organized labor today was that, as he attacked, 'How much bolshevik funds have been distributed in this country to carry out their vicious propaganda no one knows, but it is reliably informed.' Mr. Watkins said that he has two or three spots in the country where organized labor has gone to the extreme of radicalism, notably in Kansas under the leadership of Alexander Howat, whose activities are so vicious and, as I understand, are but mildly condemned by the national organization."

Declares Critics Prejudiced

"Unfortunately," the speaker continued, "operators and miners are both treated at this time by our prejudiced critics. They were apart from the people—the operators being either a coal baron, robber or conspirator; the miner a striker, loafer or generally an undesirable citizen. As a matter of fact, both operators and miners are quite as human, just as reasonable, quite as patriotic, and I might add, quite as unselfish, as the average American citizen, and quite as willing to give and receive help in order to protect our institutions from the false charges made as to any other class of our government."

Mr. Watkins characterized the government's prosecution cases against the United Mine Workers' officials and operators as "fairly good," and an "outbreak upon common sense" and a "direct attack on the principle of collective bargaining. He asserted that the government had never attempted through agreement with the operators to restrict production, adding, "If the principle of collective bargaining is destroyed and prohibited under the anti-trust law, we may find other serious methods of arranging wage scales."

"Government co-operation—not government interference—is essential for the development of our coal industry," was the conclusion of Mr. Watkins' plea.

Economy Necessary to U. S.

Necessity of nation-wide economy was emphasized by Joseph H. DeLores, president of the chamber, in his opening address to the convention at which 4000 delegates were present.

He asserted that economically the whole world was out of balance. He raised the issue of the Federal Reserve Bank system for its efficiency in carrying the country safely through a grave crisis, called attention to the necessity of reducing the expense of railroad operation and urged reconsideration of the immigration laws.

Mr. DeLores said among other things: "It would be counting the impossible to attempt to diagnose correctly in this present time all of the ills of the period since the armistice. The burden of the war upon our financial and economic structures was enormous. We accumulated debts, we carried loads, we were optimistic prior to the war and have said to be possible. The effect of the processes of readjustment upon the

Continued on Page Two, Column Three

TO CONFER ON RADICALS

Meeting in Mayor's Office to Plan Against Disorders May 1

Federal and city authorities will confer this afternoon at the Mayor's office on plans to meet the May Day disorders fostered by political radicals.

Director of Public Safety Corbett called at the office of United States Attorney in China. He is touring the principal cities in the interest of the fund.

AMBLER TRIAL RESUMED

Donaldson Identifies Legal Papers in Wrecked Car Case

Numerous legal papers and other documents which figured in the financial transactions of the North Penn Bank were identified today by the witness, Donaldson, the first witness called when the trial of Charles A. Ambler was resumed today before Judge Henry J. Cretzler in court No. 2.

Commissioner Donaldson was the last witness heard yesterday.

Ambler is charged with embezzlement and unlawful conversion of funds. On account of the many involved financial transactions the trial probably will be lengthy.

There was a large attendance at today's session. Among the spectators were many who lost their savings in the North Penn crash.

IDENTIFY BODY BY KNIFE

Scout Blade Shows Drowned Man Was Missing Youth

The body of a Delaware Valley, nineteen years old, of 3821 Sanson street, drowned February 18 in the Delaware river opposite Washington Park and recovered Monday, was identified at the morgue yesterday by means of a Boy Scout knife and a pipe.

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Yesterday Edward Hign, a deputy coroner, was passing through the morgue and noticed a knife and pipe beside the body found Monday in the Delaware near Fort Mifflin. He recognized the description furnished by Wells' relatives, and immediately communicated with the boy's father, who positively identified the body.

LEIB AGAIN APPEALS

Counsel Asks Supreme Court's Permission to Review Case

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 27.—Counsel for William S. Leib, former resident clerk of the Legislature, today asked the Supreme Court for permission to appeal to that body from the decision of the Superior Court which sustained conviction of forgery in Philadelphia.

Leib's counsel contends that the Philadelphia court had no jurisdiction in his case, that the alleged forgery was not committed there and that under the rulings as laid down in Philadelphia, he might be tried in every county in the state until convinced.

When you think of writing, write to WITTING—465.

Sues Coal Operator

Long Record of Payment to Stockholders Broken

by Action

LACK OF REVENUE EXCUSE; ONLY ONE PREVIOUS CUT

The directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad this afternoon declared a 1 per cent quarterly dividend, thereby cutting by one-half of 1 per cent, the rate customary for many years.

The announcement was made at 1:15 o'clock this afternoon at Broad Street Station, where the directors held their quarterly meeting. The announcement read:

"One per cent payable May 31 on stock of record May 2."

An annual dividend of 6 per cent has been recognized as an institution by Pennsylvania Railroad stockholders, many of whom believed it inconceivable that the great system would ever lower the rate.

The cut means that the capital invested in the road will receive a return lessened by 23 1/3 per cent compared with the 27 per cent which the road pays to its employees of the railroad.

Cash dividends paid by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. from May, 1890, to February, 1921, inclusive, total \$108,822,154.752. This is exclusive of 22 per cent dividends paid in scrip, the larger part of which were redeemable in stock.

Cash dividends since 1847 have averaged 6.01 per cent on par value of stock. The company has paid a return upon the stock in every year since its incorporation. The highest rate paid in any year was 10 per cent and the lowest rate, namely 2 per cent, in 1878, following the steel riots and destruction of property in 1877.

CHINESE MINISTER DESCRIBES FAMINE

In Address He Tells of Dire Straits His Nation Is In

THANKS U. S. FOR ITS AID

Dr. Alfred Sze, Chinese minister to the United States, arrived in the city today to make addresses in behalf of the Chinese famine fund.

He was met at North Philadelphia station by George Horne Lachner and taken for a short ride through Fairmount Park. The diplomat praised highly the beauty of the Parkway and listened with interest to an exposition of the prospective plans for lining it with public buildings.

At a luncheon in his honor by the International Federation at the St. James Hotel, Dr. Sze spoke of the drought and subsequent famine that has caused so much suffering in his native country.

"The picture of the famine area in my native China," he said, "is appalling. 'Honest, industrious, simple folk commit suicide upon a wholesale scale rather than resort to plunder. The famine has caused a starvation of these millions of the most sensitive hearts of humanity.'

"My country is doing all that it can under the handicap of its other difficulties. It is carrying a burden at the present time of 5,000,000 destitute, helpless people. These are being fed, clothed and housed. There remain, however, more than 5,000,000 who are dying of starvation."

"My gift of money is but a small token of our gratitude and gratitude by these poor people and by the people of China as a whole as testimony of the United States' friendship and sympathy."

In Dr. Sze's party are Dr. William Hiram Soule, G. Sherwood Eddy, W. C. A. A. Stevens to Asia; William S. Abbott and H. N. Tong, the diplomat's secretary.

In the welcoming party, in addition to Mr. Lachner, were J. Jarden Gault, executive secretary of the famine fund, and Charles C. Chen, a representative of the Chinese students of the University of Pennsylvania.

This afternoon the visitors will be the guests of honor at a reception at the headquarters of the Emergency Aid, 221 North Eighteenth street.

This evening Mr. Lachner will give a dinner in honor of the Chinese diplomats at the Ritz-Carlton. Later the entire party will attend the performance "Why Not?" at the Academy of Music. During his short talks between the acts, Dr. Sze will tell of the suffering from famine in China. He is touring the principal cities in the interest of the famine fund.

9 BOYS HELD AS RUNAWAYS

Five Found Wandering on Atlantic City Boardwalk

The bare of the old swimmer's hole, grassy fields, babbling brooks and the balmy air of spring has gotten into the boys' heads, as evidenced by reports from shore police that nine boys are being held by the Atlantic City police.

The Atlantic City police are holding five youths found wandering on the Boardwalk last night, and the Hamilton, N. J., police are holding four boys who stole a ride that far on their way to Atlantic City. The officers have been reported to Detective Joseph Sims, in charge of the Missing Persons Bureau, who is endeavoring to unite parents and sons at their homes.

The boys held at Atlantic City are John Rice, 3926 Mount Vernon street; Thomas Brown, 827 North Capitol street; Paul Dougherty, 820 North Capitol street; William Myers, 2529 Gray's Ferry avenue; and James Carr, 806 North Twentieth street. The 2529 is in the custody of the Hamilton police and Patrick Hogan, 825 Ayles street; Daniel Curry, 822 West street; and Theodore Robinson, 3144 Westminister avenue.

P. R. R. DIVIDENDS CUT TO 4 PER CENT FROM 6 BY BOARD

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MAYOR SEES BANKS SEAMEN TO RESIST AS CRIME WEAPON

15 P. C. WAGE CUT

Worth More Than Police in Benson Declares Reduction Imperative at Conference of Thrift Advocates Owners and Employes

Washington, April 27.—A sharp difference of opinion as to wage reductions between Chairman Benson of the shipping board, and spokesman for the maritime workers developed at the opening today of conferences called by the chairman in an effort to avert a threatened strike on American steamships on May 1.

Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seaman's Union, and other spokesmen for the workers demanded that a 15 per cent wage reduction be declared by Rear Admiral Benson to be necessary was unobtainable to the unions.

Present economic conditions fully warrant a reduction in wage scales, the chairman said, adding that he had weighed the matter long and carefully, but advised freely and conscientiously, a solid and reduction in the return on investment and such other modifications of the working rules as would make for efficiency and economy of operation. These, he said, were his views of a reasonable adjustment of the matter.

"When you enable a man to become a louse under you, you have him from the extravagances of the times. As a home owner he is like a policeman on his beat," the Mayor declared.

"Savings bank institutions, both in Americanization of aliens. They place their small sums in your institutions and before long are striking to big American homes. If more foreigners had the savings habit there would be less trouble from anarchists and bolsheviks."

"Early such were locked up in raids here the last two nights. They will not be allowed to become a burden on the thrifty taxpayers of our country, by the crime of living."

The Mayor said the impressive feature of the savings institutions of the country is the fact that most of the patrons are poor, thrifty.

Speaks of Old Methods

"It is their money that is building roads, railroads and the various institutions of the country," he said. "The spoke of the days before savings banks were founded, when families hid their money in holes under the floor, under mattresses, and in preventing men, women and children from being victimized."

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Changed to Quarterly Basis

The Pennsylvania paid its first dividend in May, 1856. Initial dividend was 4 per cent on capital stock of \$86,004 and called for \$335,440. The last dividend paid in February was quarterly dividend of 6 per cent on a capital of \$499,173,400, which equaled \$7,487,601. Dividends paid in 1920 totaled \$87,229,226 while in 1921 they totaled \$29,590,404.

The company paid dividends semi-annually from 1856 until 1875, when quarterly dividends were paid quarterly. In 1878, the company returned to semi-annual payments and continued on this basis until 1910 when quarterly payments were again made and dividends have been paid quarterly since that time.

In addition to the cash dividends of 22 per cent. The first scrip dividend amounting to 6 per cent, redeemable in cash. The most recent scrip dividend was in the business depression in 1891, when it was 2 per cent. In connection with the last scrip dividend the company also paid a cash dividend of 21 per cent.

Since the first scrip dividend which was redeemable in cash, it is understood that practically all of the other scrip dividends were redeemed in stock, although the holder had the option of redeeming his scrip in cash at his discretion.

WOMAN'S AUTO HITS BOY

Carried Child to Hospital After Leg Is Broken

John Giamis, seven years old, 1732 North Front street, suffered a fracture of the right leg when struck by an automobile at North and Wingolooking streets last night. The boy was attending a baseball game when a machine driven by Mrs. J. E. Pollock, 1322 Wingolooking street, hit him and one of the wheels passed over his leg.

Mrs. Pollock placed the boy in her machine and drove to 86, Lak's Hotel, Washington, where she was booked. Later she surrendered to the police of the Germantown avenue and Lycoming street police station.

Girl Runaway Is Sorry Automobile 'Tour' Is Over

Fourteen-Year-Old Ruth White, of Long Branch, Caught in Haddonfield With Two Boy Companions

The old, old lure of the open road and the joy of moving about at will enticed fourteen-year-old Ruth White, of Long Branch, while on a five-day motor "tour" with two boy companions. Now she is sorry it is over. She said so today at her home.

Ruth was found last night at Haddonfield with Garrett Disbrow, sixteen years old, 175 Rockwell avenue, and Bradford Ziegler, sixteen years old, 215 North Fifth avenue, Long Branch.

Since Friday night, when they sped off in a big car owned by Disbrow's mother, the three companions motored over many miles of South Jersey roads, visiting seashore resorts and inland cities.

It was a sorry trio that drew up in front of the Haddon garage at Haddonfield, last night. The automobile was raked with dirt, one tire was flat, the gasoline was exhausted, and the three children had not slept in a bed, nor had a wash for five days. In all that time also they had two meals.

They had no money, and demanded ten gallons of gasoline on credit. This was refused them, but while they were disputing with the garage man the police in the station across the street were notified.

Recognized by Police

Chief of Police George W. Baxter recognized them at once from their description. Although they tried to bluff them, they soon gave it up when he led them to the police station where the long-planned Long Branch they had been found. Lieutenant of Detectives Joseph Metzger, of Long Branch, took his three charges to Long Branch.

While waiting for the lieutenant to arrive the children made themselves comfortable. Ruth